

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the captioned application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 20 (Canceled)

Claim 21. (Currently amended) An apparatus for explosively severing a length of pipe, said apparatus comprising:

- (a) a tubular housing having an internal barrel space for receiving an axial column of explosive material between a resiliently biased detonator housing at one end of said tubular housing and a selectively removable end plug at an opposite end of said tubular housing opposite distal ends;
- (b) a first electrically initiated detonator positioned in said detonator housing and disposed to bear upon one end of said column of explosive material by said detonator housing bias ~~first and second detonator socket housings disposed at said opposite distal ends for substantially simultaneously detonating said column of explosive material at said opposite ends;~~
- (c) a second electrically initiated detonator positioned in said removable end plug and disposed to bear upon an opposite end of said column of explosive material ~~resilient bias means for resiliently translating a first socket housing along said barrel space toward a second socket housing;~~
- (d) a capacitive firing cartridge within said tubular housing ~~electrically connected detonators in said socket housings; and,~~
- (e) electrical conduits connecting said capacitive firing cartridge with said first and second detonators whereby said removable end plug may be detached from said tubular housing without disconnecting electrical continuity between said capacitive firing cartridge and said detonators ~~an electrically connected firing device electrically connected to said detonators, said second socket housing and corresponding electrically~~

~~connected detonator being selectively removable from said housing for inserting said column of explosive material into said barrel space.~~

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein said axial column of explosive is unitized about a substantially central rod structure having a length greater than said axial column of explosive.

Claim 23. (Currently amended) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein said end plug ~~one distal end of said tubular housing is environmentally sealed by said second socket housing that~~ is selectively removable from said tubular housing to load a column of explosive material into said internal barrel space.

Claim 24. (Currently amended) An apparatus as described by claim 23 wherein said end plug ~~second socket housing~~ further includes an aperture for receiving a length of said central rod structure greater than a length of said axial column of explosive.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein said detonator housing ~~first socket housing~~ is resiliently biased by a spring within said tubular housing ~~along the length of said internal barrel~~ to compressively confine said column of explosive material between said detonator housing and said removable end plug ~~socket housings~~.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) An apparatus as described by claim 22 ~~24~~ wherein said axial column of explosive material comprises a plurality of high explosive pellets aligned about said central rod structure.

Claims 27 – 33 (Canceled)